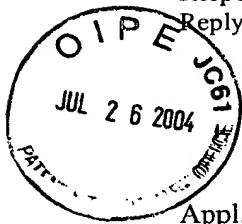


Appl. No. 09/726,986
Response and Election Dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 22, 2004



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GROUP 3600

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/726,986
Applicant : Atsushi Ando et al.
Filed : November 29, 2000
TC/A.U. : 3622
Examiner : Yehdega Retta

Confirmation No. 2127

Title : INFORMATION DISTRIBUTING APPARATUS, INFORMATION
STORING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM

Docket No. : 33157
Customer No. : 000116

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND ELECTION

(In response to Office action mailed June 22, 2004)

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Office action dated June 22, 2004

(Paper No. 6). The one month period for responding to the Office action expires on July 22, 2004.

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single invention for prosecution on the merits. Applicant hereby elects to proceed with the Group II , claim 2 without traverse.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Michael W. Garvey

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

7/21/2004

Date

Signature of Attorney

Appl. No. 09/726,986
Response and Election Dated July 21, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 22, 2004

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33157.

Respectfully submitted,
PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By: _____

Michael W. Garvey, Reg. No. 35878

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Date: July 21, 2004